

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 1

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/560,879
Filing Date	December 13, 2005
First Named Inventor	Zergiebel et al.
Art Unit	NYK 3709
Examiner Name	NYK Wistermayer
Attorney Docket Number	2909 US (203-3757 PCT US)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS WITHOUT REFERENCES

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
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Complete If Known

Application Number	10/580,879
Filing Date	December 13, 2005
First Named Inventor	Zergiebel et al.
Art Unit	MARK 3709
Examiner Name	MARK Wistemayer
Attorney Docket Number	2909 US (203-3757 PCT US)

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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A.W./		6,027,523	2-22-2000	Schmieling	
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Sheet 3

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Application Number	10/560,879
Filing Date	December 13, 2005
First Named Inventor	Zergiebel et al.
Art Unit	N/Y/K
Examiner Name	N/Y/K
Attorney Docket Number	2909 US (203-3757 PCT US)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS WITH REFERENCES

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
/A.W./		PCT WO 2004/112841	12-29-2004	Zergiebel		

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/A.W./		International Search Report from International Application No. PCT/US04/18702	

Examiner
Signature

/Alexis Wistermayer/

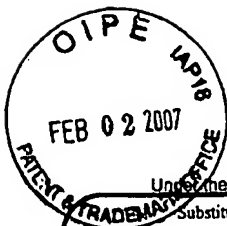
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Sheet 1

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/560,879
Filing Date	June 14, 2004
First Named Inventor	Earl M. Zergiebel
Art Unit	333 3709
Examiner Name	10/577 Wistermayer
Attorney Docket Number	2909 US (203-3757 PCT US)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS WITHOUT REFERENCES

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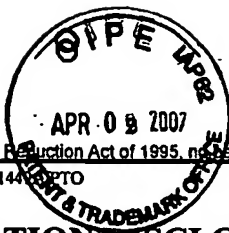
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Country	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
/A.W./		EP 0 834 280	4-8-1998	Europe		

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Examiner	/Alexis Wistermayer/	Date Considered	09/17/2007
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Application Number	10/560,879
Filing Date	June 14, 2004
First Named Inventor	Earl M. Zergiebel
Art Unit	3733
Examiner Name	N/Y/K
Attorney Docket Number	2909 US (203-3757 PCT US)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS *WITHOUT* REFERENCES

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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
/A.W./		WO 03/090630 A2 & A3	11-6-2003	TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP, LP		
/A.W./		WO 03/020139 A2 & A3	3-13-2003	VLEUGELS ET AL.		
/A.W./		EP 0 552 050 A2	7-21-1993	ETHICON INC.		

OTHER DOCUMENTS *WITH* REFERENCES

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹		T ²
/A.W./		Copy of extended European Search Report from EP 06 01 1501.1 dated December 12, 2006.	

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